PACIFIC SCHOOL
OF RELIGION

Concern

1954
No. 1

CBPac

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Cover Photo

You may think that Bob Trost is a fortunate fellow to be talking with Iris Bell and Frances Crawford in such a lovely setting, but he is even more fortunate than you think. Read the story of a new crop of young Methodist missionaries on page 5.

Forum

CARAVAN REPORT

Sirs:

"I now commission you as a caravan team to serve the Northern New York Conference, always placing Christ above all." With these words began six of the most exciting weeks of my life.

The occasion was a dedication service which ended ten days of intensive training for a summer of youth work. Some 50 college students and staff members from 22 states were represented at the caravan training center at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa. In Utah, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Cuba similar training centers were held.

Little did I know, that night of June 30, that before a month had ended I would have such a variety of experiences as seeing Niagara Falls (before the now-famous landslides began), living for a week in a funeral home, learning to catch night crawlers (fishing worms), riding a surfboard, eating and sleeping out-of-doors, and meeting hundreds of people, old and young, who were so friendly and interesting that I forgot to be homesick!

From the beginning, caravaning was a never-a-dull-moment experience. At training center we had classes, worship, recreation, meals, and a little-observed "rest period"—a continuous schedule from 7:15 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Between classes and other activities were crammed committee meetings, singing, and group discussions, and somehow we found time to become so well acquainted that we were grief-stricken at our parting after ten all-too-short-days.

Caravan week in a typical local church consists of a daily schedule with an afternoon session for junior high school youth and an evening program for high school youth. Each meeting includes a project period, discussion groups, recreation and worship. The week's program is climaxed with a Friday night dedication service, usually a communion or candle-lighting service. Discussions are on such topics as M.Y.F. organization, Christian faith and beliefs and program planning.

The purpose of caravaning—and the most important part—is to work with youth groups in local churches. We soon found it to be most rewarding. Every youth group is totally different from any other—a very challenging situation. When a boy rides his bicycle five miles into town to attend our meetings—and another rides a tractor—and a group of boys and girls spends a week making and collecting dolls and toys for children in a Negro migrant camp—and young people express their ideas through worship, drama and discussion—and little boys learn to pray in public for the first time—and youth make decisions for Christ—there is a thrill that can never be duplicated.

The greatest value of caravaning to me has been the people we have come to know so well in each town where we have worked and played. Rich and poor—ministers, laymen, youth, children—serious and full of fun—they have been a cross section of America's church people. For me, caravaning has been truly "the summer of a lifetime."

Betty Campbell, Texas

Concern

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Churches launch biggest food relief program

NEWS

The greatest world-wide food relief program in the history of the American churches—at least to quadruple the numbers of overseas hungry and undernourished currently being aided—has been launched by the communions cooperating in Church World Service, the inter-denominational relief arm of the Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches.

Methodists will take part in the program through the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief, one of the contributing members of Church World Service.

The undertaking is the immediate answer of the churches to the challenge and opportunity for greater service made possible by national legislation this summer making largely increased amounts of government surplus foodstuffs available to the world-wide relief agencies of the churches for free distribution in response to the cry of need abroad.

An initial three-year "Share Our Surplus" $7,500,000 Appeal, beginning at the Thanksgiving period, was instituted on an all-denominational, nation-wide basis simultaneously with the decision wholeheartedly to embrace the new opportunity for greatly expanded Christian service.

Through the "Share Our Surplus" program, a minimum of 500,000,000 pounds of government surplus foods and commodities—wheat, cotton, cotton seed oil, corn and corn products, butter, cheese and powdered milk valued at more than $150,000,000 at wholesale market prices here—is projected for free distribution during the next three years.

The Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 recently passed by the Congress and signed by President Eisenhower contemplates enabling the voluntary agencies to plan their programs for more than one year at a time, and a three year limit placed on part of the legislation was the factor in determining an initial three-year period of programming and appeal for funds of implement the distribution of surplus foods.

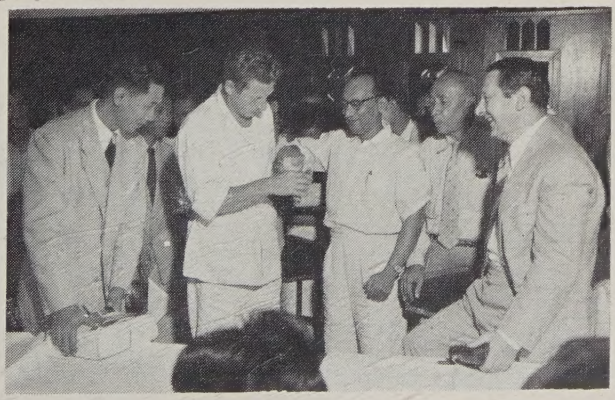
"These commodities from our over-abundance," said CWS Chairman Harper Sibley in announcing the SOS program, "constitutes the greatest relief bargain of all time."

The only thing asked of our people in moving these health giving supplies to the homeless and hungry is the actual cost of administration and of the distribution in the areas of distress. A free gift of the American people to the needy overseas transportation is provided through government resources.

"This means that for every dollar contributed to this great work of compassion, a total of $200 worth of foods—at our current prices—will be made available to the ill, undernourished and destitute people of the world," Mr. Sibley said.

Contributions to the SOS program may be sent to the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, New York.

—BY DORIS DARNELL



Film star Danny Kaye is about to sample a glass of soybean "milk." Dr. S. S. De, nutrition officer for the U.N.'s FAO, does the honors. Kaye has been touring the Far East as ambassador-at-large for the United Nations Children's Fund. UNICEF and FAO have been promoting soybean milk as a food substitute.

MYFs give through sacrificial meal

Gifts made through the Good Friday sacrificial meal offering of the MYF totaled $749.13, according to an August announcement by Miss Lena Knapp, treasurer of the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief.

The money, received by MCOR as undesignated funds, will be used for the general program of the official Methodist relief agency. The program covers relief and rehabilitation work in 28 foreign countries.

"Methodist youth groups play an important part in world relief," Miss Knapp said in reporting the gifts. "Such response as this is a heartening sign of their willingness to accept responsibility when the challenge of human suffering is put before them."

Students join ranks of United Nations staff

A group of 47 students from 29 different countries arrived at United Nations headquarters in mid-summer to spend eight weeks getting a first-hand view of how the small army of 3,400 international civil servants work within the "Workshop for Peace."

The group interns spend their eight weeks working side-by-side with regular staff members in almost every department of the United Nations Secretariat. After their stay at U.N. headquarters, they will return to their homes in Thailand, England, the Near East, the United States and other parts of the world to spread within their communities or chosen professions the knowledge they obtained on how the United Nations is trying to promote greater international understanding.

Grouping of interns is carried out under the United Nations intern program. Member governments, universities and non-governmental organizations submit the names of students they would like to be considered as candidates for the program. These lists are carefully studied by Bureau of Personnel officers and a selection is made among the best qualified students. This year the students average 24 years of age and most of them have at least one year of graduate work.

Most of the 27 interns were internationally recruited this year. They receive a subsistence allowance from the U. N. consisting of $37.50 a week during their stay. Some students were sent to the U.N. on $300 scholarships awarded them by the nominating universities.

W. A. Rush dies

Dr. William Albert Rush, director of public relations and finance in the Division of Educational Institutions of the General Board of Education, died suddenly August 17 in Nashville.

In his work Rush served as consultant to presidents and trutees of Methodism's institutions of higer education, directors of Wesley Foundations, and leaders in annual conferences. He was responsible for leadership in organizing a number of special financial surveys and studies for schools and colleges.

Before joining the board staff in 1949, he was executive vice president of Adrian College, Adrian, Mich.

Posing against the background of University Hall are seven of 28 non-Japanese students at International Christian University near Tokyo. Nationalities represented here are Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Hawaiian, Nisei, and two Americans.

U. S. - 2's prepare for special service

This Labor Day weekend by auto, train, bus, and plane, twenty-six young people leave directly from their six-week training period at National College for Christian Workers, Kansas City, Mo., for their various assignments in mission projects in the United States and Alaska. These short term missionaries are known as the U.S.-2 group and will serve under the Woman's Division of Christian Service in the United States for two years and its territories for three years.

The young people agreed it was the most thrilling six weeks of their lives. From the first informal get-together at "Dr. John's" house on August 24 to the impressive dedication service in Kresge Chapel on September 5 they have felt a bond of fellowship that welded them into a unity. It is this bond of fellowship, they feel, that will remain with them as one of their finest memories.

From morning to night (and several times at night, too) they were busy with classes in Christian faith, social group work, religious education, and recreation. In addition, there were special classes in the fields which the U.S.-2's will serve and in the organization of The Methodist Church and the Woman's Division. Besides the classroom instruction there were field trips to various related projects in Kansas City and a four-day tour of Methodist mission projects in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma.

There were always interesting and thought-provoking questions bouncing around in class, at dinner conversations, or in the midnight "bull sessions" . . . "What can I say to show an atheist there is a loving God? . . . Is it Christian to want status? . . . How do we know what Methodist literature is available and with which group it is to be used . . . How can I be a song leader if I can't sing? . . . What is a silo?"

By all measurements the most popular member was the one and only man, Robert Trost of California. He shared his time and theological knowledge with all the group, including the elected president, Polly Lassiter from his rival state of Florida.

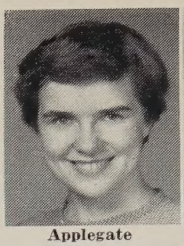
A glance at the roster shows that all of the young people are recent graduates of colleges and universities throughout the United States, that many of them were top students and student leaders on campus, and most were leaders in Wesley Foundation or the Methodist Student Movement. So why U.S.-2's? They gave various reasons, but most of them felt a desire to go into Christian service and wanted to go on a two-year trial basis to discover the fields in which they would like to continue. Many hope to become deaconesses in future years. Others entered the U.S.-2 program in order to deepen their own beliefs and to learn more of the work of The Methodist Church so that they might become informed church leaders and Christian workers in their future occupations.

But no matter what the specific reason for joining, all agreed that the U.S.-2 program is an outstanding opportunity for Methodist youth today to participate in true Christian service in interesting and absorbing work.

—BY ESTHER JONES

At National College for Christian Workers, Ella Virginia Courtney (right) taught U.S.-2's Rowita Shaw and Charlotte Council how to operate a filmstrip projector.

U.S. -2's

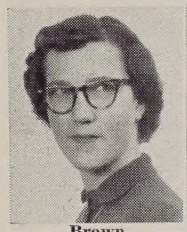

Applegate

Bell

Blakeley

Breyfogle

Brockington


Brown

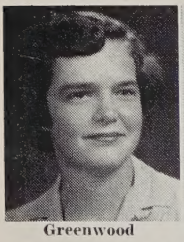
Council

Crawford

Douds

Gragg

Grebbell


Greenwood

Harden

Hunt

Jones

King

Lassiter

1954 Appointments

Following are names of the U.S.-2's with their home towns and their appointments for mission service:

Margaret Applegate, Drumright, Okla., to Bethlehem Center, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Iris Faye Bell, Woolstock, Iowa, to rural work around Imboken, Ark.

Jeanette Marilyn Blakeley, Georgetown, S. C., to Wolffe Settlement, Tampa, Fla.; Anna Marie Breyfogle, Three Rivers, Mich., to Sue Bennett College, London, Ky.; Gloria Lee Brockington, Columbus, Ohio, to Navajo Methodist Mission School, Farmington, N. M.

Betty Lou Brown, Alexandria, Minn., to Riddle Memorial Deaconess Home, Wilmington, Del.; Charlotte Council, Hickman, Ky., to Lucy Holt Moore Center, Nashville, Tenn.; Mary Frances Crawford, Birmingham, Ala., to rural work around Jeffersonville, Ga.

Mary Ann Douds, Ridgeway, Pa., to Harwood Girls School, Albuquerque, N. M.; Linda Louise Gragg, Monroe, Ore., to Marcy Center, Chicago; Mary Margaret Grebbell, Seattle, Wash., to Garden Creek Community Center, Oakwood, Va.

Lois Janette Greenwood, Newton, Kans., to Navajo Methodist Mission School, Farmington, N. M.; Evelyn Harden, Savannah, Ga., to Bethlehem Center, Charlotte, N. C.; Geraldine Hunt, Haynesville, La., to rural work around Johnson City, Tenn.

Esther Jones, Reedsville, Pa., to Vashti School, Thomasville, Ga.; Ruth King, Dalton, Ga., to rural work around Boston, Ga.; Polly Ann Lassiter, Lake Wales, Fla., to rural work in Arkadelphia District, Ark.

Marthabel Maughlin, Dighton, Kans., to Harwood Girls School, Albuquerque, N. M.; Doris Veris Neal, Memphis, Tenn., to Bethlehem Center, Memphis; Elizabeth Ann Pruitt,

Kenosha, Wisc., to Sue Bennett College, London, Ky.

Beverly Alice Rieckhoff, East Chicago, Ind., to Neighborhood House, Calexico, Calif.; Julia Ann Ritch, Charlotte, N. C., to Jesse Lee Home, Seward, Alaska; Wilma Ryan, Bentonia, Miss., to Muhlenburg Settlement, Central City, Ky.

Rowita Charlene Shaw, Columbus, Ohio, to Methodist Deaconess Home, Philadelphia, Pa.; Robert Trost, Redondo Beach, Calif., to Marcy Center, Chicago; Marion Inez Woodward, Memphis, Tenn., to Campbell Friendship House, Gary, Ind.

Six 3's train in Pennsylvania

Six three-year term missionaries were among the 25 new missionaries of The Methodist Church attending a missionary training conference at Meadville, Pa., June 23-August 4.

Some 29 3's destined for Africa and Korea were trained at Scarritt College in Nashville, Tenn. (See 20 August CONCERN.)

The Pennsylvania 3's were among 100 missionaries representing a dozen denominations in a special overseas orientation course conducted by the Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches.

The 3's are Margaret Wade Campbell, Alexandria, La.; Carroll English, Fort Myers, Fla.; Jeanette Marie Evans, Tuskegee, Ala.; and Nathalee Pennington, Lawrenceburg, Tenn., all going to Latin America.

Going to Japan are Joyce Koch (not pictured), Peoria, Ill., and Kathleen Register, Jasper, Fla.

Anyone interested in qualifications for special term mission service or the 1955 program should write Department of Missionary Personnel, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11.

Maughlin

Neal

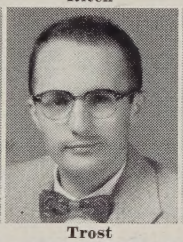
Pruitt

Rieckhoff

Ritch

Ryan

Shaw


Trost

Woodward

More 3's

Campbell

English

Evans

Pennington

Register

CONCERN apologizes and hangs its head over mistakes in the 20 August issue. Five names are incorrect on page 7. Please mark charges in your copy: the fellow on the top row is George Ogle; persons on the second row are Carl Ream, Mildred Sawyer, Clyde Smith, Mary Lou Sprague, and Esther June Stoffer.

What's doing

World Christians meet

The prayers of the Christian world will be joined in lifting up the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches which opens here in Evanston tomorrow (August 15). Sixteen hundred leaders of the world Protestant churches will join together under the banner, "Christ the Hope of the World."

Tomorrow morning at the First Methodist Church the 1,600 delegates, accredited visitors and consultants, representing 168 million Christians of 61 denominations in 48 countries, will join in the opening service of worship. Tomorrow evening the (weather man willing) world Christians will join in a giant Festival of Faith at Soldiers Field at Chicago. Four thousand church leaders will take part in the service and the attendance is expected to exceed 83,000 persons. (Ed. Note: Over 125,000 attended.)

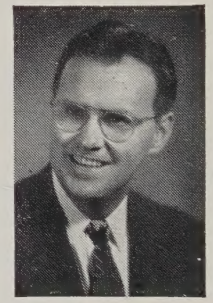
Concern Feature

You can imagine all of the turmoil and confusion here at Evanston. McGaw Auditorium on the Northwestern campus has been rushed to completion for this meeting. Dormitories, class rooms, gymnasiums and assembly halls all have been turned over to the World Council of Churches for this significant meeting.

Why all this fuss and all the trouble to bring Christian leaders together from forty-eight countries? What will they discuss and what will come of it all? These are pertinent questions. For many years conferences, conclaves, and assemblies have been held to give opportunity for fellowship and the discussion of elements of unity which unite Christians everywhere. The first of these conferences was a World Missionary Conference convened in Edinburgh in 1910. The World Council of Churches was organized at the Amsterdam Conference in 1948. This movement among Christians has been referred to as the ecumenical movement.

Miss Barbara Ricks, of Washington, D. C., will represent Methodist youth as a youth consultant of the World Council Assembly. Barbara, a 21-year-old student, is one of 18 representing Protestant youth from the United States. She is the president of the Washington Conference MYF, an officer of the National Conference of Methodist Youth, and represents the MYF on the General Council of the United Christian Youth Movement. During the past week Barbara has been meeting with 70 other youth consultants from over the world in a study and discussion of the World Council of Churches and the issues which will be before it during the days from August 15 to 31. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist bishop resident in the Washington Area, is one of the five presidents of the World Council. Some 36 Methodists will represent the church in the Assembly.

The theme of the conference, "Christ, the Hope of the World." will be the subject of consideration in the plenary sessions and the section and discussion groups where the implications of Christian hope in a world where despair and defeat seem so prominent will be considered.



Ewing

Last evening the members of the pre-Assembly study groups crowded the sanctuary of the Methodist Chicago Temple to hear Dr. Reinhold von Tadden-Trieglaff, a layman from Germany, who has led the Christian laymen of all Germany in an active Christian witness. In July he led 650,000 Christians in a kirchentag (Church-day) at Leipsig, in the east sector of Germany, with Christians coming from all sections of the country to make their Christian witness. Dr. von Tadden said that the ecumenical movement will not have meaning until all Christians, not only

the leaders, preachers, and professors, but *all Christians* become aware of their "oneness in Christ." The Evanston Assembly will have little meaning unless you make it have meaning in your life, in the life of your church and community. What can you do? Here are some suggestions:

1. Pray daily that God's spirit might be manifest in the World Assembly.

2. Follow the news accounts of the World Council Assembly in your newspapers, CONCERN, and the *Christian Advocate*. Be informed about the ecumencial movement.

3. Study your own Christian faith. Be certain of your own beliefs.

4. Deepen your convictions about your church and God's will for your life.

5. Share in activities of Christian fellowship with other Christians.

—BY HAROLD W. EWING

Thinking out the news

Which starting point?

"Men live largely without hope, or are sustained by false hope in a Communist or science-provided Utopia . . . Many of the secure and privileged live complacently, caring little for the desperate needs of the world. Perhaps never before have so many millions lived in fear: fear of atomic war . . . fear of poverty, fear of economic dislocation."

Concern Feature

That quotation may be familiar to many church members who have studied the Introductory Leaflets of "Ecumenical Studies," preparatory to the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches. The eyes of the world have been centered on Evanston, where churchmen and laymen from all over the globe gathered to discuss "Christ, the Hope of the World."

The quotation is from page 3 of "Social Questions: The Responsible Society in a World Perspective." Most people would agree that this is as fair a picture of the world's dilemnas as can be painted in such a few words.

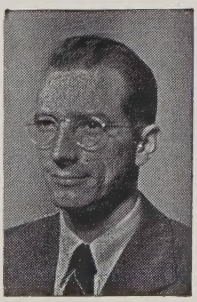
As the pamphlet points out, the question which was before the World Council in this connection—and which continues to be before us as Christians —is this:

"What is the revelance of the Christian faith and hope for the economic and social problems of our time? What is the meaning of this hope for the desperate need of large parts of society today?"

In approaching this question, it is extremely important to realize there are at least two contradictory starting points. One starting point is to say: this is the world now, *how can we improve it* from the Christian point of view?

We think this pamphlet — and it would seem, most of the Assembly itself — took this starting point. The pamphlet, for instance, says: "Our Christian hope offers no panaceas for the solution of our social problems."

In one sense, this is true. It is true in the sense that we cannot suddenly and finally set up a "Christian" political-social-economic program established by "responsible" governments, or a world government, from the top down.



Nelson

This is, however, another sense in which this statement against "panaceas" may not be true: and this is where the second starting point comes in. Some people and this columnist, speaking not for The Methodist Church but as an individual, is one of them — some people believe that we CAN draw from the teachings and the life example of our Master certain definite answers to the question of human brotherhood. These answers can be put into practice at once, not from the top down, through

political government, but from the bottom up, beginning with close-knit fellowships of believers.

These fellowships must be made up of "believers" in the true sense of the word: that is, those who do not merely say with their lips that Jesus is Lord of their lives, but who actually attempt to *live* by his teachings. Such groups must be concerned, prayerful, loving; evangelistic, dedicated *revolutionary*. They must be more completely dedicated, more willing to suffer even than the Communists. They must learn to practice *total surrender* to the gospel of Christ.

They will not bring God's Kingdom on earth in the foreseeable future. They will fail—and they will succeed. They will pave the way, they will be a channel for the release of God's spiritual power on earth in a measure beyond that of the physical power we have seen in the hydrogen bomb.

Consider the great value of small Christian group fellowships, moving from their present experimental and fluid stages (see Elton Trueblood's *Alternative to Futility* and other books) into something more stable and more dynamically purposeful. Then, indeed, may we speak more clearly when we speak of CHRIST, THE HOPE OF THE WORLD.

—BY CLAUD NELSON, JR.

Source of concern

Twisters or tendrils?

Look out over USA with your super-D glasses: thousands of Methodist youth scurrying. Back from institutes, camps, conferences, national. Soon school. Emphasis. Fall program. Gotta hurry.

Sacred time: snow unfootprinted, page unturned; some thought as yet unthought save in the Mind of God; some youth unwon; some dream undone. (Slowly, now . . . a quiet breath . . . may we pary with that humble Sunday school teacher about to enter her classroom of intermediates: "I pause this moment at the threshold here . . . *Go with me, God!*")

Might spell it, *scared* time, too. Why not admit it? All of us, on thresholds of new steps, feel fluttery. Question is: are we scared about the right things. That's what behooves us to look sharp about. Concerned about the right concerns? Mortals, even church mortals, can get themselves screwed up and hotter and bothereder . . . but about inconsequentials. While the consequentials go forgotten, or *almost*. What do you come home from conferences fired up about? Putting on colossal-er shindigs? Handling scillions of executive details with scintillating efficiency? Getting agendas agendized, procedure parliamentarized, rallies rallied, organizations organized, ideas channelized? The kilowatt-hours of youth-energies, pulsing like curl rent at the heart of the church . . .

Concern Feature

But, here at thresholds . . . tying up those energies to real kingdom-concerns! All-out, all up and down the connectionalism! In all offices! In all councils! In all hearts! We talk about having to get busy to "carry out the program." (Feet first in a black box is the way they usually carry out things that are so inert as to have to be carried out). Where plans are vibrating with life, and where planners see their task as challenging living waters through their own lives into other lives . . . then whatever "program" emerges will carry us! There'll be a tide. Like little ol' Nancy Peacock put it in last year's North Mississippi convocation: "we'll turn atom-bombs into anti-cancer rays, program areas from pages in a handbook into living youth walking, talking, working, witnessing . . ." Bert Lyle: remember youth's haunting question, "How does a Christian walk down the street?" The point of our terrified scaredness ought to be—not whether we do a dilly job in this or that office or meeting—rather, whether the net

result will be one person walking down the street in a closer walk with God. "The soul of Jesus is restless tonight," the poem says. (Almost frightens us to stop and ponder what the sharp point of his restlessness is about . . . guess we must answer, each of us for himself . . . what we *doubt* whether he's very restless about . . . what we *know* he'd be restless about, were he in our shoes this hour) You're young; let him baptize your concerns, put those concerns in the right places about the right things before too late. Keep ends and means crystal-straight.

For the strange, but ever-present-through-the-physical-universe *law of spiritality* is at work. You see it in your own growth thus far—physically, mentally, socially, spiritually. You feel secure about something you know, something you can do. But you *reach*, try the new. To reach, you need security to stand on. But if you stopped there (exulting in your security), you'd stagnate, die. If you reach too fast too far without security, you fall. It goes like a spiral. You see it in tendrils of plants curling sunward. You see it in twisters—starting small, spiralling . . . woe to what's in the path. Terrific life-principle. All about us. Millions of examples.

Miss Bowman

What you put first, in the very center of your concern while young, that can spiral—upward into living tendrils for good and for God, or downward into machinery-madness that can turn like a twister to hurt kingdom-causes. So prejudice starts and spirals. Communism a few years ago was a little idea among a few. Look at mob-feeling, war-mongering. Spirals. But healing ideas spiral, too. Love most of all. A few Christ-centered youth could take hold of some down-spiral, turn it . . . start new redeeming spirals to reach to the ends of the earth! But they'd have to start small, just where they are . . .

—BY CLARICE BOWMAN

Books of Concern

Youth and the Christian Community

MYF counselors, church school teachers, parents, pastors and other adults who work with youth will find this volume very informative. As the author admits, they may find many things that are familiar to them, but certainly much will be thought-provoking and helpful. *Youth and the Christian Community* is written by Rowena Ferguson, associate editor of youth publications of the Methodist Board of Education and a well-known writer for and about young people.

Basically the book contains material to help adults understand and guide adolescents. It is interesting and easy to read, and CONCERN highly recommends it to adult workers with youth.

The book has 140 pages, paper bound, and is published for $1 by Abingdon Press. Order copies from the nearest Cokesbury Book Store.

Crowded Ways

The new study book for the annual church-wide schools of missions in The Methodist Church deals with the American city as a challenging mission field. The book is a symposium by five men and women who have made a study of the city from many points of view. Writers are Murray H. Leiffer, Frederick A. Shippey, Mrs. Earl Cranston, Mabel G. Wagner, and Earl D. C. Brewer.

A leader's kit contains the study book, plus a guide for study sessions, and factual material with charts and statistics on urban Methodism, and other helpful tools.

Order *Crowded Ways* at 50 cents a copy from Study Book Office, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11. The leader's kit may be ordered for $1 from the same address.

Christianity, Communism and History

A very readable and stimulating book deals with fundamental differences and conflicts between Christianity and communism. Author William Hordern sounds a challenge that Christians need to hear and accept. The book is excellent study material for student groups. It is published by Abingdon Press, 174 pages, $2.50.

Writers sought for TV series

A TV story contest among Methodist students is being launched, part of a search for usable stories for a half-hour dramatic program series of the Methodist television ministry.

Prizes offered are $750 first, $500 second, and $250 third. Entries must be postmarked not later than December 1, 1954.

"Christian Love" is the general theme of the series. Stories should deal with the application of Christian love to various life problems or areas, such as forgiveness, community relations, home life, and so on.

The contest is sponsored by the Radio and Film Commission in cooperation with the Department of College and University Religious Life of the General Board of Education. The programs will be produced on film by the Radio and Film Commission and made available to TV stations through the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches.

The panel of judges is made up of national leaders representing the church, educational institutions, and the broadcasting industry. Included are Bishop Donald H. Tippett, president of the Radio and Film Commission; Albert Crews, Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches; Professor Wilbur T. Blume, University of Southern California; Miss Judith Wallter, National Broadcasting Company; Harold Ehrensperger, Boston University; and Howard E. Tower, Methodist Radio and Film Commission.

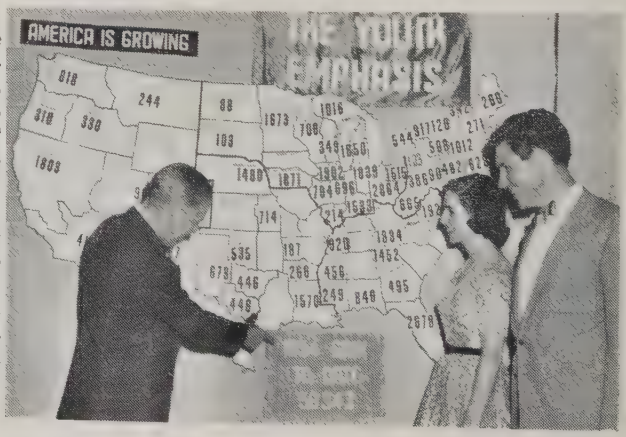
Further information may be obtained from TV Story Contest, Radio and Film Commission, Box 868, Nashville 2.

Wesley film released for local groups

The new motion picture, "John Wesley," has been released in 16 mm. form for showing in local churches and small groups.

Filmed in the new Eastman color process, the picture was dedicated at a world premiere April 28 at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Since then it has been shown in 500 of Methodism's 40,000 churches during a premiere period. These 500 churches were granted the special early showings in appreciation of contributions they made toward the cost of production.

The limited release this fall is on an offering basis, with the churches making application at least a month in advance and using preparation materials and offering envelopes provided by the Radio and Film Commission. Special application order blanks are available from the Methodist Publishing House film libraries, which are distributing the film for the Commission.



A key display at the General Board of Evangelism meeting this summer was a map showing gains in MYF membership in the church. Enthused by reports from spring conference the board commended the church's youth leaders. At the chart are Bishop John Branscomb, Barbara Eskew and Howard Ellis.

Facts and answers on segregation

Another excellent booklet published by the Southern Regional Council brings together in brief, readable form some of the main facts that point the way to constructive action in the south on the issue of racial integration in public schools.

Following the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public schools, many people have raised questions of one kind and another. This booklet, "Answers for Action—Schools in the South," handles such questions as these: why did the court rule against segregation? Did the court order any immediate changes? How and when will the Supreme Court decision be put into effect? Does the decision have meaning only for the South?

One section quotes from resolutions and official statements of church bodies.

Persons desiring copies of the booklet may write Southern Regional Council, 63 Auburn Ave., N.E., Atlanta 3, Ga. Send 25 cents per copy.

Mission board seeks workers

A new kind of call for help has come from the Methodist Board of Missions.

This time the call is for clerical and secretarial help on a full-time basis at the offices of the board in New York. Business training (typing, stenography, bookkeeping, etc.) or experience in these fields is required. Also required are character, ability to cooperate, general education, and interest in the Christian movement and in its missionary expression.

If you are interested in a job—or know someone who is—write the details to Robert T. Henry, business manager, Board of Missions, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11.

Bishop Arthur J. Moore, president of the board, says, "The Board of Missions is a vast missionary organization with many divisions and departments. We seek in all these operations to conduct our business activities upon the highest Christian principles. We are in constant need of secretarial and clerical help. It is my opinion that any young person desiring employment would find, with us, congenial and rewarding friends, interesting work and would have the satisfaction of helping to carry on a great Christian enterprise."

Plan now for United Nations week

October 17-24 may seem a long way off, but now is the time to start planning for those days.

It's United Nations Week, a world wide celebration of the founding of the U.N.

The Board of World Peace of The Methodist Church (740 Rush St., Chicago 11) is urging churches and all groups in the church to study and know the United Nations.

Executive Secretary Charles F. Bess, Jr., announces that the board has published a guide for churches in the celebration of U.N. Week. The guide has prayers for the U.N., suggestions for church and community observances of the week, suggestions for World Order Sunday, and a list of recommended films.

Friends of CONCERN

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Pioneer workcamp is big success

An interracial workcamp in San Antonio, Texas, sponsored jointly by the National Conference of Methodist Youth and the Methodist Board of Social and Economic Relations, ended August 7 after eight thrilling and fruitful weeks.

Fourteen campers representing 7 states and Negro, Latin, and Anglo racial backgrounds participated in the full activities of the camp.

The campers' daytime hours were spent in working for social agencies in the city of San Antonio, and evenings were spent in leadership training and evangelistic activity in local churches.

The steering committee for the work camp, headed by Rev. Claus Rohlfs of Dilley, Texas, received a full report of work camp activities at its August meeting. Besides statements by Rev. and Mrs. Jeff Campbell, directors of the undertaking, there were reports from the local churches and social agencies served and from the work campers themselves. It was found that many unanticipated problems had been met, and that the basic philosophy of this type of work camp had proved valid beyond the expectations of any in the group. The concensus was that this type of experience is highly significant and should be repeated.

Enthusiasm was so high that Rev. Bruce Galloway of San Antonio was named as chairman of the steering committee for a San Antonio Work camp in 1955.

Seven Methodist youth show their prowess with shovel and trowel as they improve a swimming area for the Alamo YMCA Boys' Camp as a part of the San Antonio Workcamp (see story above). Camp director Jeff Campbell is at the extreme right in the picture. The Alamo Boys' Camp is a Negro establishment near San Antonio, and is one of five social agencies which the campers helped.

MYF in action

Texas MYF sets pace

The MYF of the Methodist church in Big Spring, Texas, has been one of the busiest of all this summer. Fruits of their labor have included a new volley ball court and recreational area for the Mexican Methodist Mission in Big Spring, well-planned Sunday meetings, regular Fellowship Nights which include swimming, folk games, cookouts, and scavenger hunts to collect items for overseas relief.

The real story is that at the beginning of the summer, the Big Spring MYF was barely creeping along in membership, interest, and worthwhile projects. Lack of planning and not enough adult leadership had caused the group to lag in many ways.

The secret of transformation in this success story is not to be found in any one thing. Some say it's the enthusiastic young summer youth worker, Richard Deats of SMU. Many think the secret is in better planning, better leadership, and an increased desire to make the MYF count in the community.

The point of the story is that many MYFs need to come alive with a well-rounded program like Big Spring now has. Don't read this report and envy them, but read it and know that your group can be just as effective and lively with just a little more interest and hard work.

Wake up and work to put "Christ above all."

California brings German student

Peter Leimke of Hamburg, Germany will begin a year of study at the University of Arizona this fall as a result of the "Peter Project" of the Southern California-Arizona Conference MYF.

Young people in Wesley Foundations, Epworth Clubs, and local churches have raised $2,200 for Peter's expenses during the coming year.

The German minister's son will live at a Methodist student cooperative with a self-supporting group of students who do their own cooking, cleaning, and household chores. After his year in America, Leimke will enter the Methodist Theological Seminary in Frankfurt, Germany.

Highlight for many of the top workers in the project was a trip all the way to New York City to meet Peter as he stepped off the Queen Mary and to tour the city.

MYF Roundup

◆ New director of youth work in the Louisiana Conference is Miss Ruth Ellen Kelley, formerly director of Christian education at First Methodist Church, Lafayette.

◆ The MYF of Henning Memorial Methodist Church, Sulphur, Louisiana enjoyed a Spiritual Life Retreat on the Gulf Coast. The group gained much from work, recreation, and discussion of the Bible and Christian beliefs. Rev. James C. Whitaker assisted the group in their spiritual quests. Jay Koonce was the youth chairman of the retreat.

◆ The Michigan Conference MYF laboratory school for officers was held at Albion College, Albion, a few weeks ago. The group met in a general session with Dr. Merritt Dietrich each morning. Afternoons were devoted to discussions of the five program areas of the MYF, evenings to programs based on these areas. The group raised over $100 for the MY Fund during the week.

◆ The Clarendon Methodist Church of Arlington, Va., is serving its older youth with a monthly newsletter describing the activities of the group at home and of the entire church. These newsletters keep the youth together the year-round, and when they all get home in the summer, the older youth department is most active in the church.

◆ The North Alabama Conference MYF recently held their fourth annual World Folk Festival, in which songs, costumes, and customs of various lands are presented. The Festival serves a triple purpose: it helps build the feeling of unity with Christians around the world in the young people attending, proceeds from the festival are used for improvements at Camp Sumatanga, Gallant, Ala., and youth of the conference are given an opportunity to share ideas and learn of the organization of youth work in the conference. Attendance at this year's festival numbered 500. Master of Ceremonies was Bert Lyle of Tupelo, Miss.; Miss Nina Reeves headed the planning commottee for the event.

Five Methodist young people are shown on the roof of the Methodist Building in New York after meeting Peter Leimke, visiting student from Germany. Shown left to right are Robert Howard, Santa Monica, Calif., Bob Snyder, secretary of the "Peter Project," Pearline Zeigler, Tucson, Ariz., Leimke, Shirley Rooker, Catalina, Calif., and Robert Stewart, U. of Arizona.

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